

## Message Text

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61

ACTION AF-06

INFO OCT-01 EUR-12 IO-10 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 PM-03 H-02

INR-07 L-03 NSAE-00 NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15

USIA-06 /074 W

----- 040165

R 011625Z AUG 75

FM AMEMBASSY BRUSSELS

TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4588

INFO AMEMBASSY COTONOU

AMEMBASSY THE HAGUE

AMEMBASSY LUXEMBOURG

SUMMISSION GENEVA 6675

AMEMBASSY PARIS

USMISSION EC BRUSSELS

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE BRUSSELS 06975

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, DM, BE, NL, LU

SUBJECT: DAHOMEAN AMBASSADOR POGNON DEFECTS

1. GRATIEN POGNON, DAHOMEY'S AMBASSADOR TO BELGIUM, THE NETHERLANDS, LUXEMBOURG AND REPRESENTATIVE TO THE EUROPEAN COMMUNITIES IN BRUSSELS AND TO THE UN AGENCIES IN GENEVA, HAS DEFECTED. IN A PUBLIC ANNOUNCEMENT, AUGUST 1, IN BRUSSELS, POGNON DENOUNCED THE KEREKOU REGIME CALLING IT "ONE OF THE MOST INHUMAN AND IMPLACABLE FASCIST REGIMES IN AFRICA." POGNON SAID THAT HE HAD ACCEPTED THE POSITION OFFERED HIM BY THE "FRONT DE LIBERATION ET DE REHABILITATION DU DAHOMEY" TO HEAD UP THAT GROUP'S FOREIGN RELATIONS.

2. POGNON WAS CONSIDERED LOCALLY ONE OF THE MOST BRILLIANT DIPLOMATS OF HIS COUNTRY. HE HAS BEEN ACCREDITED IN BRUSSELS SINCE MARCH 1973 AND HAD PREVIOUSLY LED DAHOMEAN GOODWILL DELEGATIONS TO THE PRC AND NORTH KOREA. POGNON HAS FRENCH DEGREES IN LETTRES AND HISTORY. FIRESTONE

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NNN

## Message Attributes

**Automatic Decaptioning:** X  
**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Current Classification:** UNCLASSIFIED  
**Concepts:** DEFECTION, AMBASSADORS  
**Control Number:** n/a  
**Copy:** SINGLE  
**Draft Date:** 01 AUG 1975  
**Decaption Date:** 01 JAN 1960  
**Decaption Note:**  
**Disposition Action:** RELEASED  
**Disposition Approved on Date:**  
**Disposition Authority:** RowellE0  
**Disposition Case Number:** n/a  
**Disposition Comment:** 25 YEAR REVIEW  
**Disposition Date:** 28 MAY 2004  
**Disposition Event:**  
**Disposition History:** n/a  
**Disposition Reason:**  
**Disposition Remarks:**  
**Document Number:** 1975BRUSSE06975  
**Document Source:** CORE  
**Document Unique ID:** 00  
**Drafter:** n/a  
**Enclosure:** n/a  
**Executive Order:** N/A  
**Errors:** N/A  
**Film Number:** D750266-1160  
**From:** BRUSSELS  
**Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Image Path:**  
**ISecure:** 1  
**Legacy Key:** link1975/newtext/t19750887/aaaaczbm.tel  
**Line Count:** 60  
**Locator:** TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM  
**Office:** ACTION AF  
**Original Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Original Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Original Previous Classification:** n/a  
**Original Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Page Count:** 2  
**Previous Channel Indicators:** n/a  
**Previous Classification:** LIMITED OFFICIAL USE  
**Previous Handling Restrictions:** n/a  
**Reference:** n/a  
**Review Action:** RELEASED, APPROVED  
**Review Authority:** RowellE0  
**Review Comment:** n/a  
**Review Content Flags:**  
**Review Date:** 18 APR 2003  
**Review Event:**  
**Review Exemptions:** n/a  
**Review History:** RELEASED <18 APR 2003 by CunninFX>; APPROVED <02 OCT 2003 by RowellE0>  
**Review Markings:**

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**Review Media Identifier:**  
**Review Referrals:** n/a  
**Review Release Date:** n/a  
**Review Release Event:** n/a  
**Review Transfer Date:**  
**Review Withdrawn Fields:** n/a  
**Secure:** OPEN  
**Status:** NATIVE  
**Subject:** DAHOMEAN AMBASSADOR POGNON DEFECTS  
**TAGS:** PFOR, PDIP, DM, BE, NL, LU, (POGNON, GRATIEN)  
**To:** STATE  
**Type:** TE  
**Markings:** Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 06 JUL 2006